GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – A.P.Secretariat Services – Assistant Secretary to Government – Restoration of orders issued in G.O.Rt.No.121, dated 13.01.2023 - Orders - Issued.

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GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (SC.F) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.1706

Dated:17-09-2025
Read the following:-

1. G.O.Ms.No.93, General Administration (Cab.II) Department, dt.15.09.2022.
2. G.O.Rt.No.121, General Administration (SC.F) Department, dt.13.01.2023.
3. G.O.Rt.No.1261, General Administration (SC.F) Department, dt.27.06.2023.
4. G.O.Rt.No.1930, General Administration (SC.F) Department, dt.27.09.2023
5. Hon'ble High Court Orders in I.A. No.5/2023 in W.P. 40006/2022 dt.05.06.2025.
6. From the General Secretary, A.P.Secretariat Association, Velagapudi dt.12.06.2025
7. Representation from Assistant Secretaries(i/c) dt.13.06.2025

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ORDER :

In the reference 1st read above, eighty five (85) additional posts were created in different cadres in Andhra Pradesh Secretariat and allotted the said posts among the Departments of Secretariat under the control of Single Unit. Therefore, promotions have been taken up to various cadres according to A.P. Secretariat Service Rules. In the order dated 16.12.2022, in W.P.M.P. No. 20930 of 2016 in W.P. No. 40006 of 2022, the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh made that "in order to give full effect to the Interim Order passed by the Combined High Court of Andhra Pradesh in W.P. No. 16998 of 2018, the Authorities are directed not to prepare any Seniority List and shall not undertake any further exercise for the purpose of fixing seniority and the consequent promotions".

2. Therefore, in the exigencies of administration, only temporary promotions on adhoc basis are being considered to various cadres of Andhra Pradesh Secretariat Service, based on the allocation list furnished by the Government of India, Department of Personnel & Training in the State Reorganisation.

3. Accordingly, among others, proposals of the Section Officers for promotion as Assistant Secretary to Government were placed before the Departmental Promotion Committee for consideration, as was done in respect of other cadres, and based on the recommendations of Departmental Promotion Committee, fifty (50) Section Officers were promoted to the category of Assistant Secretary to Government (SO Line) purely on temporary and adhoc basis, under Rule 10(a) of the Andhra Pradesh State and Subordinate Service Rules, 1996, vide G.O. 2nd read above. In pursuance of the said orders, all the (50) Section Officers have joined duty, on promotion, as

Assistant Secretaries to Government, in the respective Departments of Secretariat in which they are posted.

4. Subsequently, on filing of Contempt Case No. 707 of 2023 in W.P. No. 40006 of 2022 in the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh questioning G.O. Rt. No. 121, General Administration (SC.F) Department, dated 13.01.2023 and in view of the Contempt notice issued by the Hon'ble Court of Andhra Pradesh, the promotions effected in reference 2nd read above were withdrawn and consequently the individuals were reverted as Section Officers (Single Unit) in the reference 3rd read above.

5. In the G.O. 4th read above, Government have issued orders making in-charge arrangements to the posts of Assistant Secretary to Government as stop gap arrangement and to avoid dislocation of work, in relaxation of Rule 10 (h) of Andhra Pradesh State and Subordinate Service Rules 1996, to the Assistant Secretaries who were reverted to the post of Section Officer on their own scale of pay, subject to outcome of all WPs/SLPs pending before the Hon'ble High Court / any other Courts.

6. In the order dated 05.06.2025, in I.A. No. 5 of 2023 in W.P. 40006/2022, the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh, allowed the prayers for impleadment therein and for vacating the Interim Order dated 16.12.2022 and consequently vacated the interim order passed on 16.12.2022. The Hon'ble Court made the following order:-

".....This Court, prima facie, is of the opinion that this Court had passed the interim order in WP No.40006/2022 assuming that it is an isolated case. Thereafter, it came to light that there is already another connected Writ Petition bearing WP No.7812 of 2021 pending on the file of this Court, more or less with identical facts but indicate that there are competing and conflicting interests amongst the parties. As noted earlier, another WP also came to be filed bearing WP No.15172 of 2023. That apart, the WP No.16998 of 2016, which is pending before the Division Bench of the Hon'ble High Court of Telangana presently is also yet to be adjudicated. Having regard to the facts involved in WP No.16998 of 2016, there is no second opinion that the outcome in that case (before the Division Bench of the High Court of Telangana) shall eventually have a serious bearing on the pending WPs before this Court also. In this view of the matter, this Court is of the opinion that it is not in the interest of the parties to continue the interim order of this Court dated 16.12.2022 as it may raise more complications which cannot be countenance by this Court at this stage.

Accordingly, the prayers for impleadment and for vacating the Interim Order dated 16.12.2022 are allowed and consequently the interim order passed by this Court on 16.12.2022 stands vacated."

7. In the reference 6th read above, the General Secretary, A.P.Secretariat Association, Velagapudi has requested to restore the orders issued earlier in G.O.Rt.No.121, G.A. (SC.F) Dept., dt.13.01.2023, for effecting ad-hoc promotions from Section Officer to Assistant Secretary to Government and cancel the withdrawal orders issued in G.O.Rt.No.1261, G.A. (SC.F) Dept., dt.27.06.2023 in view of the orders of Hon'ble High Court dt.05.06.2025.

8. In the reference 7th read above, certain Assistant Secretaries to Government (i/c) have requested to re-promote them as Assistant Secretaries to Government with effect from 13.01.2023 i.e., from the date of their appointment by promotion as Assistant Secretaries to Government on adhoc basis with all consequential benefits including pay fixation, as they are discharging the functions of Assistant Secretary to Government from the said date and by rescinding the orders issued in G.O.Rt.No.1261, G.A. (SC.F) Department, dated 27.06.2023, so as to give effect to G.O.Rt.No.121, dt.13.01.2023.

9. Government, after careful examination of the contents made in the references 6th and 7th read above, hereby restore the ad-hoc promotions granted vide G.O. Rt. No. 121, dated 13.01.2023, by rescinding the reversion/withdrawn orders issued in G.O. Rt. No. 1261, dated 27.06.2023, subject to the outcome of all pending writ petitions in the Hon'ble Courts. Further, the promotions are purely on an ad-hoc basis, without conferring any right to regular promotion or permanent seniority and Government shall also reserve the right to review, revise, or withdraw such orders based on future directions of the Hon'ble Courts. The above restoration shall be in respect of (50) Section Officers as Assistant Secretary to Government, except Sri K. Venkata Rami Reddy (Sl.No.40 in G.O.Rt.No.121 above) as he is under suspension and facing disciplinary proceedings for major penalty. His case will be examined separately, as and when the disciplinary proceedings are concluded.

10. The concerned departments of Secretariat shall take necessary further action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

K. VIJAYANAND
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
All the concerned (through Concerned Departments)
All the departments concerned (OP/Estt)
The General Administration (SC.D) Department.
The General Administration (SU.I/SU.II) Department.
The Government Pleader, Services I ,
General Administration Department.
The Pay and Accounts Officer, A.P., Mangalagiri
The Accountant General, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada
The Deputy Pay and Accounts Officer, Secretariat Branch
Copy to:
P.S. to Prl.Secy. to CM
P.S. to CS/Prl.Secy.(Poll)
SF/SC.(2879472)

//FORWARDED BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER (SC)